

**EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
& SIXTH SUNDAY OF LUKE**

**GREAT-MARTYR ARETHAS (AL-HAARITH) &
COMPANIONS IN ARABIA**

OCTOBER 24, 2021



**ST. NICHOLAS
ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH**

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CLERGY

His Eminence Metropolitan JOSEPH
Archbishop of New York & Metropolitan of all North America

His Grace Bishop ANTHONY
Auxiliary Bishop of the Diocese of Toledo and the Midwest

Very Reverend Michael Nasser
Pastor of St. Nicholas ▪ 616-216-3537 ▪ frmichael@stnicholasgr.com

Very Reverend Elias Mitchell
Pastor Emeritus

Reverend Theodore Sirotko
Rev. Archdeacon David Khorey
Rev. Deacon Justin Adolphson

Rev. Deacon Clement Nicoloff
Subdeacon Nicholas Rock



WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS

Thank you for attending today's Divine Liturgy. Please register your visit by completing the guest book located on the table in the narthex. We would appreciate getting to meet you, so feel free to join us for refreshments & fellowship in the Cultural Center.

We believe **Holy Communion** to be a sign that in Christ we have all things in common, share an identical faith, and are united fully to the Orthodox Church. Anyone interested in learning more about our faith is encouraged to speak with one of our clergy. Orthodox Christians who have prepared themselves through prayer, fasting, & regular confession are welcome to receive Holy Communion.

WHO WE ARE

St. Nicholas Church is a worshipping community, living and sharing the Faith Christ gave to the Apostles.

Our parish exists to seek and share Christ's love so that ALL will find eternal life in Him.

We would love to share more about our Orthodox Faith with you. Our website and our bookstore are great resources to assist you in learning more about us and what we believe! Also, feel free to make an appointment with our pastor.

We trust that you will experience Christ's presence as you worship with us today.



HYMNS AND READINGS OF THE DAY

HYMNS

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION (TONE 1)

While the stone was sealed by the Jews, and the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body, Thou didst arise on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world. For which cause the heavenly powers cried aloud unto Thee, O giver of life. Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ, glory to Thy kingdom, glory to Thy providence, O Thou Who alone art the lover of mankind.

APOLYTIKION OF ST. ARETHAS (AL-HAARITH) & COMPANIONS (TONE 1)

Be Thou entreated for the sake of the sufferings of Thy Saints which they endured for Thee, O Lord, and do Thou heal all our pains, we pray, O Friend of man.

APOLYTIKION OF ST. NICHOLAS (TONE 4)

Thy work of justice did show thee to thy congregation a canon of faith, the likeness of humility, a teacher of abstinence, O Father Bishop Nicholas. Wherefore, by humility thou didst achieve exaltation, and by meekness richness. Intercede, therefore, with Christ to save our soul.

ORDINARY KONTAKION (TONE 2)

O undisputed intercessor of Christians. The mediatrix who is unrejected by the Creator. Turn not away from the voice of our petitions, although we are sinners. Come to us with aid in time, who cry unto thee in faith. For thou art good. Hasten to us with intercessions, O Theotokos. Who dost ever intercede for those who honor Thee.

EPISTLE READER

Today: Olivia Adolphson
Next week: Jackson Amash

EPISTLE

*Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us.
Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous.*

The Reading from the Second Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians 9:6-11

Brethren, the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly; and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Let each one do according to what he has purposed in his heart, not grudgingly, or under compulsion; for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you; that you, having always all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work. As it is written: “He has scattered abroad, He has given to the poor; His righteousness endures forever”; now He, who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food, will supply and multiply your seed for sowing, and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in all things for every generosity, which works through us thanksgiving to God.

GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke 8:26-39

At that time, Jesus arrived at the country of the Gadarenes, which is opposite Galilee. And as He stepped out on land, there met Him a man from the city who had demons; for a long time he had worn no clothes, and he lived not in a house but among the tombs. When he saw Jesus, he cried out and fell down before him, and said with a loud voice, "What hast Thou to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beseech Thee, do not torment me." For Jesus had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. [For many a time it had seized him; he was kept under guard, and bound with chains and fetters, but he broke the bonds and was driven by the demon into the desert.] Jesus then asked him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Legion"; for many demons had entered him. And they begged Jesus not to command them to depart into the abyss. Now a large herd of swine was feeding there on the hillside; and they begged Jesus to let them enter these. So He gave them leave. Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned. When the herdsmen saw what had happened, they fled, and told it in the city and in the country. Then people went out to see what had happened, and they came to Jesus, and found the man from whom the demons had gone, sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind; and they were afraid. And those who had seen it told them how he who had been possessed with demons was healed. Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gadarenes asked Jesus to depart from them; for they were seized with great fear; so He got into the boat and returned. The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with Jesus; but Jesus sent him away, saying, "Return to your home, and declare all that God has done for you." And he went away, proclaiming throughout the whole city all that Jesus had done for him.

SYNAXARION

On October 24 in the Holy Orthodox Church, we commemorate the holy, glorious and right-victorious Great-martyr Arethas (al-Haarith), Abraham, Ruhayma, Habsa, Hayya, Hayya, and the multitude martyred with them in Najran of Arabia Felix (present-day Yemen) in the year 524.

Verses

Martyr Arethas offered God, when beheaded,
multitudinous Martyrs beheaded likewise.

On the twenty-fourth thou wast felled with thy friends, O Arethas.

When Dhu Nuwas, ruler of the Himyarite tribe in southern Arabia, and a Judaizer, took power, he sought to blot out Christianity, especially at Najran. Led by Arethas—who was 95 years old—thousands of martyrs, including women, children, and babies, valiantly withstood his threats, and were beheaded and burned. After Arethas and the men had been slain, all the free-born Christian women of Najran were brought before the tyrant and commanded to reject Christ or die; yet they rebuked the persecutor with such boldness that he said even the men had not insulted him so viciously. The Ethiopian King Elesbaan—whom we also commemorate today—liberated Najran from Dhu Nuwas soon after and raised up churches in honor of the Martyrs. Najran became a place of pilgrimage until the rise of Islam a century later. At the end of his life King Elesbaan, who was also called Caleb, retired into solitude as a hermit.

On this day, we also commemorate the Martyr Sebastiana of Heraclea.

By the intercessions of Thy Saints, O Christ God, have mercy upon us. Amen.

HOLY OBLATIONS

For the Health and Blessings of Sarah Kaufman on the occasion of her eighteenth birthday, offered by Ryan, Carole, Leah, and Bekah. May God grant her many years!

For the Health and Blessings of Rilee Shaneck as she underwent surgery, as well as for her parents, Ashley and Bill, and sister Madison, offered by the Nasser family.

For the Health and Blessings of Nick Nicola, Tyler Riley, Kim Nicola, and Bruce Nicola on their birthdays, offered by Barbara Thomas. May God grant you many years!

In memory of the Handmaiden of God, Jozlynn Thomas on the anniversary of her falling asleep in the Lord, offered by Barbara Thomas. May her memory be Eternal!

In loving memory of the Handmaiden of God, Suzanne Harnevious on the anniversary of her falling asleep in the Lord on October 28, offered by her sister Rebecca Palumbo. May her memory be Eternal!

REMEMBER IN YOUR DAILY PRAYERS

If you desire a name to be added to this prayer list, Holy Oblations may be offered, with the option of being added to the bulletin Prayer List for 40 days.

LIVING

And all the victims of tragedy, violence, and poverty
throughout our Nation, and in Lebanon,
England, Russia, Turkey, and throughout the world.

Sarah Kaufman	Kim Nicola	Marge Simon
Rilee Shaneck	Bruce Nicola	Dan Abraham
Ashley Shaneck	Attallah Amash	Mary Ann Maloley
Bill Shaneck	Audrey Nicoloff	Michael Ellis
Madison Shaneck	Ralph Thomas	Shirley Salhaney
Nick Nicola	David Corey	Linda Traxler
Tyler Riley	Joe Corey	Capri Coleman
	Hatem Karadsheh	Nathaniel



DEPARTED

NEWLY DEPARTED

And all the newly departed victims of tragedy, violence, and poverty
throughout our Nation, and in Lebanon,
Russia, Ukraine, Brazil and throughout the world.

Jozlynn Thomas
Suzanne Harnevious